

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 03389 230951Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----014372 230956Z /16/50

O 211050Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5976
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 3389

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 3389 VICE 3889)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK, TZ

SUBJECT: NYERERE PRESS CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA

1. PRESIDENT NYERERE HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 20 IN
WHICH HE SPOKE AT LENGTH ABOUT RECENT US-UK DISCUSSIONS WITH
HIM ON RHODESIA. TEXT DAR ES SALAAM SUNDAY NEWS STORY
FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

2. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER WHO HAS HEARD PARTS OF TAPE OF
CONFERENCE BELIEVES IT GENERALLY ACCURATE DESCRIPTION DISCUSSIONS
AND HOPE IS THAT FOREIGN PRESS GOT STORY RIGHT. HOWEVER,
SUNDAY NEWS AND SWAHILI PRESS STORIES AUGUST 21 EMPHASIZE THAT
PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES ACCEPTED AS ARMY INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE
AND THAT SMITH ARMY MUST BE REMOVED WITHOUT MENTIONING ELECTIONS,
UN FORCE, AND OTHER INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS.

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3. NYERERE SENT HIS PRESS SECRETARY, SAMMY NDEE, TO SEE BRITISH
HIGH COMMISSIONER AND ME AT OUR HOUSES MORNING AUGUST 21 TO
INDICATE REGRET THAT LOCAL COVERAGE DID NOT MENTION ELECTIONS
AND OTHER ASPECTS PROPOSAL. MDEE SAID HE HAD BEEN DIRECTED
WRITE EDITORIAL FOR MONDAY NEWS WHICH WOULD SET RECORD STRAIGHT.
MDEE ALSO SAID FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS MEETING HAD BEEN ARRANGED

FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, WITH OWEN AND YOUNG BEING INVITED
PRESENT PROPOSAL SATURDAY, AUGUST 27. HE IMPLIED WE COULD
ANNOUNCE THIS NOW IF WE WANTED.

4. COMMENT: SUSPECT NYERERE'S AIM IN GOING PUBLIC IS TO
JUSTIFY FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS MEETING TO NATIONALISTS AND
FELLOW AFRICANS BY MAKING CLEAR US-UK PROPOSAL IS IN FACT
COMPATIBLE WITH THEIR OBJECTIVES. NYERERE MAY ALSO WANT SCARE
MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE OFF ANY THOUGHTS OF QUICK INDEPENDENT DEAL
WITH SMITH. ADDITIONALLY, MDEE INDICATED NYERERE WELL AWARE
US HAVING HARD TIME BRINGING BRITISH ALONG, AND NYERERE MAY BE
TRYING WITH PRESS CONFERENCE TO HELP COMMIT BRITISH FINALLY
AND COMPLETELY ON FORCES ISSUE.
SPAIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DARES03389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770303-1154
Format: TEL
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770840/aaaabhfd.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7af8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1537112
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NYERERE PRESS CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK, TZ, ZIPA, (NYERERE, JULIUS K)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7af8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009